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be that the following comment was made in the analytical text: "In a large number of accidents to excessive drinkers it is clear that immoderate alcoholic indulgence resulted in uncertainty of movement, lack of skill, inattention, and lack of care." At ages 25 to 34 accident cases of durations less than 28 days were 3.1 times more frequent among the excessive drinkers than among all males; and for cases of durations above 28 days the relative frequency was 3.5 for the excessive drinkers. The mortality of the excessive drinkers was in excess of the general experience at all ages, and in the following ratios:

Ages.	Death Rates per 1,000 Exposed one Year.		Ratio of Rates.
	Alkoholiker.	All Males.	Alkoholiker to all Males.
25 = 34	12.2	5.3	2.3
35 = 44	28.4	9.7	2.9
45 = 54	37.2	16.7	2.2
55 = 64	36.4	29.8	1.2
65 = 74	74.6	58.0	1.3

In volume four a special series of tables are presented for childbirth cases. These tables, like those for excessive drinkers among males, present some very interesting and suggestive facts relating to the special subject treated. Such facts as premature births, abortion cases, etc., with the various complications resulting therefrom, are considered in detail with distinction of age and occupation.

This review is necessarily very limited, but in closing it cannot be too strongly emphasized that this latest mortality and morbidity experience, presented with such patience, skill, and clearness, must be regarded for a long time to come as one of the greatest storehouses of facts on the problems with which it deals. Much new light has been thrown upon old problems and many new problems are suggested by even a casual reading of the analytical text and a study of the tables and diagrams.

F. S. CRUM.

THE JEWS: A STUDY IN RACE AND ENVIRONMENT.

By Maurice Fishberg. The Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., New York and Melbourne, 1911. Pp. 578.

This volume consists of a preface, twenty-three chapters of text, and a bibliography and index. There are a large number of reproductions of pictures and photographs and a few diagrams. After presenting data about the number and distribution of the Jews, the author proceeds to discuss physical characteristics (chapters II, III, and IV), the types of

Jews and their origin (chapters V, VI, and VII), proselytism and intermarriage (chapters VIII and IX), demographic characteristics (chapters X, XI, and XII), pathological characteristics (chapters XIII, XIV, and XV), social and economic conditions (chapter XVI), education (chapter XVII), occupations (chapter XVIII), criminality (chapter XIX), political conditions (chapter XX), social disabilities (chapter XXI), and assimilation versus Zionism (chapter XXII). The final chapter (XXIII) contains a recapitulation and the author's conclusions.

This enumeration of titles suggests the wide range of subjects with which the author undertakes to deal. The leading thought of the book is that the Jews are not a race by blood since they have intermarried with Gentiles with considerable freedom in early days and have done so again whenever and wherever they have achieved political and economic equality. The so-called Jewish characteristics, physical, demographic, pathological, social, and occupational, are greatly exaggerated by most writers, according to Fishberg, and to the extent that they exist at all, they are largely due to environment, or *milieu*, as the author loves to call it.

The Jew's existence is due to his persecution, according to the author, and when the persecution ceases the Jews become amalgamated with the people among whom they live. The process of assimilation is much more widespread than is popularly believed, even in countries where the Jews labor under legal disabilities, as witnessed by the fact that as a general rule the Jews in one country differ from their coreligionists in another in substantially the same manner as the Gentiles of the respective countries differ from each other. Zionism is an idle dream, according to Fishberg, because no large number of Jews could be induced to leave their present abodes for the new Zion, and even if they wished to emigrate there is not sufficient space in Palestine to hold them all, nor is there any other unoccupied land to which the Jews could turn for the founding of a new fatherland. They will always remain a minority, and the wished-for Jewish state can never become a reality.

The evidence presented by the author is derived from three sources: (1) Statistical publications; (2) anthropological, medical, economic, historical, and social studies of the Jews by other authors, and (3) the author's own measurements and observations in the United States and other countries.

So far as the statistical evidence is concerned, it must be said in the first place that the author uses for the most part secondary sources and without verification which, in a book with scientific pretensions, is always regrettable. Thus, for instance, the number of Jews in the United States is given as 1,777,185, according to the American Jewish Year-Book, without further investigation (p. 8); the author adds, however, that the numbers given by this authority are below the real numbers and that "it is fairly established that New York City alone has about one million Jews." No evidence is produced to support this doubtful statement, and yet it seems reasonable to expect that if a fact of such fundamental importance

to the discussion as the number of Jews in New York City is "fairly established," the readers are entitled to see the evidence establishing it.

That the author's use of his statistical data is not always careful and lucid is seen from the following examples: On page 260 the author presents a series of percentages of the age distribution at death of Jews and of Christians in Amsterdam. In discussing the figures the author does not say that among the Jews a smaller proportion of dying persons are children, but without hesitation, draws the conclusion that infant mortality is lower among Jews, which conclusion does not necessarily follow from the low per cent. of children among those who die, since birth rates are the other factor which may influence the age distribution at death. The statement, as made, is misleading and logically leads to the absurdity stated on page 262 that "among persons of advanced age the rates are higher among the Jews simply because a larger number of Jews reach that age."

On page 206 the following statement occurs: "The percentage of mixed marriages in 1903 was as follows: Unitarians, 167.73; Protestants, 49.39; Reformed Church, 48.52; Greek Catholic, 42.79; Greek Oriental, 16.88; Jews, 7.21." The per cent. over one hundred is naturally thought to be a misprint, but the author silently assumes that the reader will read his mind and understand that what is meant is not the percentage that mixed marriages form of the total number of marriages, but the percentage of mixed marriages if the unmixed marriages are assumed to be 100.

In the discussion of the offspring of mixed marriages on page 218, the author assumes that all such offspring who do not become followers of the Mosaic faith are numerically a loss to the Jews. It is perfectly obvious, of course, that if a Jew marries a Gentile wife and a Jewess a Gentile husband, and if half of the children of both couples become Jews, the effect on the number of Jews in the world, barring the question of comparative fecundity, will be the same as if the Jew and the Jewess married each other and all their children were Jews. Thus a numerical loss can only be spoken of when more than half of the offspring become Gentiles.

These and similar mistakes, partly in form and partly in reasoning, are found on many pages of the book and are sufficient to undermine the statistician's confidence in the author's statistical conclusions.

As regards the other sources of evidence, it seems that the author has covered the literature of the subject fairly well, but his chief idea about the lack of racial characteristics and the undesirability of separateness, is at times prone to lead him to conclusions that are not supported by any evidence adduced, as, for instance, on page 369, where the author speaks of "the most separative ritualism of their religion, which is just as effective in keeping them backward as the legal restrictions." This statement is not only not susceptible of proof, but is inconsistent with the author's general contention that legal emancipation for the Jews invariably results in progress and assimilation.

As regards the author's own measurements and observations, which at times are pitted against the views of other observers, it is but fair to say

that the reader is entitled to a more detailed statement of their extent and method before he is ready to accept them as final vindications of the author's contentions.

One more quotation: On page 441, the author, speaking of the social discrimination practiced in this country against the Jews, as witnessed by the refusal of certain hotels and schools to accept Jews as guests or pupils, asserts that "the isolation of the Jew is in this respect as stringent as it was within the gates of the mediæval Ghetto." We can not refrain from remarking that, humiliating as such discriminations are to the members of the Jewish race, the above is a gross overstatement of their efficacy and importance.

To sum up, the book, which undoubtedly contains much of value, needs a careful scrutiny of the statistical evidence and the elimination of all that is not strictly accurate; it needs a careful revision to avoid misleading statements and ill-considered reasoning; and, finally, it needs to be purged of all bias and exaggeration before it can be accepted as a real contribution to the scientific literature on the Jews.

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Washington, D. C.

THE AMERICAN YEAR BOOK.

D. Appleton and Company, New York. 1911. Pp. xx, 867.

The first issue of the American Year Book fully justifies the enterprise of the publishers. It is unique in plan, comprehensive in its scope, authoritative and accurate in the matter it presents, and characterized throughout by good sense, both in what is included and in what is excluded. All this might have been predicated in advance of a work in the preparation of which so many men eminent in their respective departments of knowledge took a part; over the details of which a wise advisory board presided; and the actual collation and arrangement of which was entrusted to the hand of Dr. S. N. D. North.

In effect the Year Book is a condensed annual encyclopedia. It contains substantially all that the ordinary man will wish to know when he is seeking for the "record of progress" in any field of politics, foreign affairs, science, education—in short, of anything which is worth knowing; and it outlines all that the student in any field will need to know in order to prosecute research further. That is all that can be expected of a manual upon the plan of this. Of course it does not displace and supersede all other annuals. The biggest and most comprehensive of all—a bigger and more comprehensive one than any now in existence—could not contain all that every one would find sufficient. But it is high praise, and fully deserved, to say of this Year Book that those who have it at hand will be likely to turn to it first for any information they desire on any subject relative to the progress of the world during the period it covers.